

RINGLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at **St Peter's Church Ringland** on **Monday 19th January 2026** at **7.00pm**

These minutes are considered draft until approved at the next council meeting.

PRESENT:

Cllr Lindy Cooper (Chair), Cllr Simon Addington, Cllr Andy Illing, Cllr Keith Stone, Cllr Margaret George, Cllr Jill Baker.

Cllr Greg Peck (County Councillor), Cllr Peter Bulman (District Councillor), PC Brett Peyton of Norfolk Police Safer Neighbourhood Team, and 5 members of the public.

Graham Peers BDC Tourism, promoting a circular Ringland walk.

Graham outlined a new initiative to promote walks around the district that tie in with businesses in the area. There will be a website and leaflets that detail the walks. Graham will liaise with Cllr Addington on the details of the walks.

The Chair remembered David Sparks, who sadly passed away on 11th January. David was a councillor for over 30 years who worked tirelessly for the village including carrying out the grass cutting with other residents for many years. The funeral will be held on 7th February at 12.00 at St Peter's Church.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Turner.

2. Declaration of Interest

None.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 10th November 2025 were agreed to be a true record and signed by the Chair.

4. Public Participation and Reports (15 mins max 3 mins per speaker)

- i. County Councillor: Cllr Peck outlined the plans for elections in May which will not be decided finally until February. Cllr Peck mentioned the gritting regime, potholes and the Ranger service. Any road issues to be emailed to the Clerk to be forwarded to Cllr Peck.
- ii. District Councillor: Cllr Bulman talked about the result of the unitary vote, which resulted in the 3 unitary model being put forward by 1 vote. Cllr Bulman attended the Breckland planning meeting re the large development of 2,000 homes in three phases around Hockering and referred to his opposition to the development and concerns around lack of infrastructure. The District planning department has been reported to the Ombudsman for poor processes.
- iii. Police Matters: PC Brett Peyton emphasized the lack of crime in the Ringland area with only one non-domestic reported crime in 2025, which was a case of indecent exposure on Ringland Hills. PC Peyton is aware of the concern about overweight vehicles using Ringland Bridge and has parked up to observe but not seen any. This issue has been handed to the Traffic Team. Cllr George noted that the police were seen stopping vehicles on the bridge today. PC Peyton also

spoke about the issue of parking at the Swan and has moved some taxis on from parking outside the pub instead of in the car park. There will be a day of action on speeding soon when the team will be out and about to highlight any issues.

- iv. Members of the Public: A member of the public made the council aware of an issue with an oil delivery recently that was not delivered correctly. There was also an issue raised about the possibility of a 20mph zone as mitigation for the traffic issues caused by the lack of the NWL and the work on the A47. The example of Costessy was highlighted. Flooding on the road next to the River Green was discussed and Cllr Addington will note the location and forward to Cllr Peck.

5. Planning

- a. To consider planning applications: none
- b. To receive a report on plans refused/accepted by Broadland District Council. None
- c. To hear an update and to consider any necessary action with regard to enforcement issues on planning appeals. None

6. Clerk's report

The clerk's report was received. There was a discussion about the UKPN tree works. Clerk to respond to the UKPN email regarding this.

7. Highways Matters

- a. The SAM2 unit is now with Gt Witchingham. Cllr Turner has reported that a new location will be tried next time Ringland has the unit. The SAM2 Management Policy and Risk Assessment was adopted as presented.
- b. To receive any update on the NWL and A47 dualling projects. The liaison group is meeting again. Clerk to forward information to Cllr Illing.

8. Council Representatives

To hear an update from Councillors and Clerk on the following areas and consider actions required:

- a. Village Hall: The Chair explained the electrical works that are required following the EICR and it was resolved to accept the quote provided by the EICR contractor (circulated before the meeting). It was also resolved to appoint the PAT tester for the village hall.
- b. The River Green: To note the new sign on the green. It was noted that there is damage to barriers around the River Green which needs work. It was resolved to obtain quotes for the work and discuss at the next meeting.
- c. Grazier's Committee. No applications have been received so far. The deadline is 31st January.
- d. Management of Common Land. The Norfolk Wildlife Trust have agreed to carry out works to trees that will help maintain the grass commons and Ringland Hills which is a requirement for the parish. Ringland's contribution of 25% would be £330. It was resolved to pay the £330. There will be a working party on 31st January at 1pm at the Ringland Hills to manage the gorse. Volunteers are requested to bring adequate PPE and tools. The council congratulated Cllr Illing on the successful application to the Broadland Future for Nature Grant to reinstate ponds on Low Common. The Grant will reimburse the Parish for works done on the ponds.
- e. Grass cutting. Alterations to the cutting regime for 2026 were discussed with the aim of reducing the cost of grass cutting in the village. There will be a meeting with the contractor to

finalise the detailed schedule of cuts.

9. Policies and Governance

- a. The Website Accessibility Statement was adopted.
- b. The council resolved to commission a website accessibility audit for Assertion 10 at the cost of £72 including VAT.
- c. The Sickness Absence Policy was adopted as presented.
- d. The Volunteer Policy was adopted as presented.

10. Finance

- a. The bank reconciliations as at 30 November 2025 and 31st December 2025 were received and signed by the Chair.
- b. The accounts and budget review as at 30th November 2025 and 31st December 2025 were received and signed by the Chair.
- c. The final 2026/27 budget was adopted and the precept demand agreed and signed by the RFO.
- d. The internal auditor was appointed and the fee of £75 agreed.
- e. Cllr Illing was appointed as the new Council Internal Scrutineer.
- f. The following payments were approved:

Kay Montandon	Mileage	£ 11.70
Tesco mobile	Phone February	£ 8.50
Tesco mobile	Phone March	£ 8.50
Kay Montandon	January Salary and WFH allowance	£316.71
Kay Montandon	February Salary and WFH allowance	£316.71
HMRC	PAYE January	£ 47.40
HMRC	PAYE February	£ 47.40
Sky Business	Broadband February	£ 29.94
Sky Business	Broadband March	£ 29.94
Wave	Water Village Hall	£ 37.00
EDF	Electricity to Village Hall January	£ 76.94
NALC	Website Accessibility Audit	£ 72.00
ICO	Data Protection Registration	£ 52.00
Prevent	Fire extinguishers test/replace at hall	£ 69.60

11. Safeguarding and IT Training

It was resolved that Councillors who attend public events on behalf of the council and would like to attend Safeguarding training online from Community Action Norfolk may do so at a cost of £150 per session. Councillors will consider further training in the next financial year.

12. To consider correspondence received.

Email	District Council	Requests information about fly-tipped asbestos roofing materials	Clerk requested information about this fly tipping but nobody knew if it was still on the Hills.
Email	Cllr Clancy	Requesting NCC to do gritting in the	For information

		area	
Email	A47 Alliance meeting	Meeting arranged and will be attended by Cllr Illing	For information
Email	Armed Forces Covenant	Thank you for sending your Armed Forces Covenant pledge document to us. We are delighted that you would like to demonstrate your support for the Armed Forces Community by signing an Armed Forces Covenant. Attached is the Covenant logo and email banner, along with T&Cs for their use. This is your Covenant formally 'registered'. Now that your organisation has signed the Covenant, it is eligible for a Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) Bronze award. ERS encourages employers to support Defence and inspire others to do the same. The scheme encompasses Bronze, Silver and Gold awards for organisations that pledge, demonstrate or advocate support to defence and the armed forces community. For more information about ERS and how to apply for a Bronze award, visit https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/defence-employer-recognition-scheme/defence-employer-recognition-scheme If you plan on doing any social media communications around your Covenant pledge, we would be grateful if you could use the hashtag #ArmedForcesCovenant.	For information/item for future agenda

13. To note items for information or for a future agenda

None

14. To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meetings:

Monday 16 March 2026 7.00pm.

Monday 18 May 2026 7.00pm.

Monday 20 July 2026 7.00pm.

Monday 21 September 2026 7.00pm.

Monday 16 November 2026 7.00pm.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.13pm.